

Urban Deer Hunt Protocol

Purpose: To provide a framework for municipalities attempting to address urban deer issues, namely human/ deer conflicts, by utilizing archery hunting. This will be accomplished by establishing a partnership between the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC), the Arkansas Bowhunters Association (ABA), and the city.

Time Frame: All urban deer hunts will open the first Saturday in September and close January 31st.

Operating Rules: All hunters are required to:

- Pass the International Bowhunter Education Course.
- Attend an urban hunt orientation; after attending the orientation, hunters will be eligible to hunt all the urban deer hunts for that year.
- Pass a shooting proficiency test.
- Pay annual confirmation fee, which includes membership in the ABA for liability insurance purposes.
- Possess a valid Arkansas (resident or nonresident) big game license. Hunters must be at least 16 years of age.
- Possess a valid Urban Bowhunting Permit (issued by AGFC). Permit will be valid for all the urban deer hunts for that year.
- Hunter will be provided a vehicle placard that must be signed by a representative from each municipality that he/she wishes to hunt.
- Display placard in full view on the dashboard of their vehicle and carry the approved permit at all times while hunting.
- Use a longbow, recurve or compound with at least a 35-pound pull and broadheads at least 7/8-inch wide (mechanicals OK); string-locks are not permitted.
- Hunt in designated areas, and if hunting on private property, hunters must possess written permission from the property owner.
- Hunt at least 50 yards from designated trails or parks.
- Hunt at least 50 yards from any occupied dwelling without written permission.
- Keep all bows cased to and from stands.
- Shoot from stands that are at least 10 feet above the ground (no walking, stalking or ground blinds).
- Cover harvested animals from sight before transporting/ moving from the field.
- Remove harvested animals during daylight hours if at all possible.
- Special considerations will be made for disabled hunters in wheelchairs.
- Donate first deer to Arkansas Hunters Feeding the Hungry (a 501C-3 charitable organization).
- Check deer online at www.agfc.com or by telephone toll-free at 866-305-0808. Hunter must check to the appropriate urban deer zone.

Deer Bag Limit: No bag limit. The first deer taken must be a doe and must be donated to Arkansas Hunters Feeding the Hungry; all subsequent deer harvested may be either-sex. Deer are considered bonus deer and do not count in the hunter's seasonal bag limit. No antler restrictions.

Hunter Orientation: Officials from the AGFC, ABA, and participating municipalities will attend and oversee each hunter orientation. Scheduled activities for each orientation will include: shooting proficiency tests, payment for annual confirmation fee, review of hunt rules, and distribution of permits and dash placards.

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

2014-2015 Participating Cities:

Fort Smith/Barling	Russellville
Bull Shoals	Lakeview
Cherokee Village	Horseshoe Bend
Fairfield Bay	Heber Springs

Dates for IBEP: (all class start promptly at 8 a.m. and will end roughly at 5 p.m.)

May 10	Ft. Smith, AR- Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center (8300 Wells Lake Road)
June 28	Ft. Smith, AR- Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center (8300 Wells Lake Road)
July 12	Melbourne, AR- IZARD County Fairgrounds (1927 Lacrosse Rd.)
July 19	Ft. Smith, AR- Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center (8300 Wells Lake Road)
July 26	Russellville, AR- Lake Dardanelle State Park (Weigh-in Pavilion)

Date for Orientations: (all orientations start promptly at 8 a.m.)

August 2	Blackwell, AR- Ed Gordon Point Remove W.M.A. Headquarters (I-40 Exit 101 (Blackwell Exit))
August 9	Melbourne, AR- Old Melbourne Elementary School (104 School Street)
August 16	Ft. Smith, AR- Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center (8300 Wells Lake Road)

Participants will be able to attend any orientation listed above even though it may not be the area they wish to hunt. The fee will be \$50 which will cover insurance, ABA membership and permit fees. This will allow the participant to hunt one or all of the hunts in which they wish to participate.